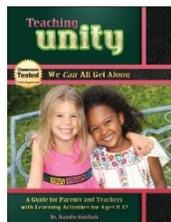# Teaching Unity
and the Common Core State Standards

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) provide a set of shared goals and a clear understanding of what students are expected to learn at each grade level in the United States. The Standards are designed to prepare students for success in college and the workplace. Encompassing both content knowledge and skills, they set specific benchmarks for math, English language arts, and literacy in history/social studies, science, media and technical subjects.

The Standards are identified by subject area, grade level and number. For example, RI.4.3 stands for Reading–Informational Text, grade 4, standard 3, and W.5.1a stands for Writing, grade 5, standard 1a.

It is the task of local educators to decide how these standards are to be met. Teachers will continue to develop lesson plans and tailor instruction to the individual needs of the students in their classrooms. The activities in *Teaching Unity* support the Common Core Standards across multiple subjects and grade levels. A few examples are included below:

CCSS	Description	Teaching Unity	Page/Activity
RI.3.1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.	Reading on Unity	p. 26, #7
W.3.7	Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.	Felt Lesson Design	p. 177, #2
SL.4.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.	Discussion on Unity in Diversity	p. 41, #8
SL.4.4	Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.	Famous Figures Monologues	p. 194, #3
W.5.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.	Letters from History	p. 194, #4
RL.5.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.	The Cold Within poem	p. 195, #7
L.6.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading or listening.	Personal Interview	p. 196, #8
RH.6-8.7	Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.	Skin Color Demo	p. 61, #3

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